

NOV 19 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of
Kazushi KITA et al.

U.S. Serial No. 10/784,985

Group Art Unit: 3745

Filing Date: February 25, 2004

Examiner: Unknown

Title: CYLINDER APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the attached form and document(s) indicate information of which the applicant(s) has/have recently become aware which may be relevant to the above-identified application.

The information is in the form references that have been cited in a foreign counterpart application pending before the Swedish Patent Office. A copy of the Search Report issued by the Swedish Patent Office, dated September 24, 2004, is enclosed.

The fact that the references have been cited in a counterpart foreign application satisfies the requirement for a statement of relevance, as noted in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure MPEP § 609. Therefore, consideration of the references is proper and is respectfully requested

The Examiner is requested to indicate consideration of this information by initialing and returning a copy of the Information Disclosure Citation form (PTO-1449) attached herewith.

This information is being submitted before issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no fees are due. Notwithstanding, should any other fees be considered due in connection with this or any accompanying communication, such fees may be charged to Account No. 07-2519.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTQ/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<p>Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it carries a valid notice requirement.</p> <p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</p>		<p style="font-weight: bold;">Complete if Known</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td style="width: 50%;">10/784,985</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>February 25, 2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Kazushi KITA et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>3745</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>CS-02-040225</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/784,985	Filing Date	February 25, 2004	First Named Inventor	Kazushi KITA et al.	Art Unit	3745	Examiner Name	unknown	Attorney Docket Number	CS-02-040225
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First Named Inventor	Kazushi KITA et al.														
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Sheet	1	of	1												

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/784,985
Filing Date	February 25, 2004
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Art Unit	3745
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	CS-02-040225

Filing Date	February 25, 2004
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First Named Inventor	Kazushi KITA et al.
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Art Unit	3745
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Examiner Name	unknown
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Attorney Docket Number	CS-02-040225
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[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ² *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁶ (if known)			
		EP 1 132 629	09-12-2001		
		EP 1 199 479	04-24-2002		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL-TYPE SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 15.5)

National application No. 0400464-4	Country or Office of filing SE	Applicant's or agent's file reference 117975
Filing date (day/month/year) 26 February 2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)	
Applicant SMC Kabushiki Kaisha		

Date of request for international-type search 26 February 2004	International-type search request No. SE 04/00103
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This international-type search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant.

This international-type search report consists of a total of 2 sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international-type search was carried out on the basis of the application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international-type search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the application furnished to this Authority.

b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

1

INTERNATIONAL-TYPE SEARCH REPORT

Search request No.

SE 04/00103

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: F15B 15/20, F15B 15/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: F15B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1132629 A2 (SMC KABUSHIKI KAISHA), 12 September 2001 (12.09.2001), figure 1, abstract --	1-11
A	EP 1199479 A2 (FESTO AG & CO), 24 April 2002 (24.04.2002), column 4, line 29 - line 35, j --	1-11
A	US 6170797 B1 (Y. KIMURA ET AL), 9 January 2001 (09.01.2001), column 11, line 50 - column 12, line 14, figure 6 -- -----	1-11

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search
21 September 2004Date of mailing of the international-type search report
2004-09-24Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Swedish Patent Office
Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM
Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86Authorized officer
Lena Nilsson / MRO
Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL-TYPE SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

03/09/2004

Search request No.

SE 04/00103

EP	1132629	A2	12/09/2001	CN	1311405 A	05/09/2001
				JP	2001248609 A	14/09/2001
				TW	459107 B	00/00/0000
				US	6520065 B	18/02/2003
				US	20010018862 A	06/09/2001
				JP	2001241908 A	07/09/2001

EP	1199479	A2	24/04/2002	DE	10048049 A	02/05/2002
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US	6170797	B1	09/01/2001	DE	19744947 A	30/04/1998
				GB	2318616 A,B	29/04/1998
				GB	2327463 A,B	27/01/1999
				GB	2327464 A,B	27/01/1999
				GB	9721653 D	00/00/0000
				GB	9821556 D	00/00/0000
				GB	9821557 D	00/00/0000
				JP	3131570 B	05/02/2001
				JP	10122202 A	12/05/1998